

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected  
DEC 27 2012  
FCC Mail Room

December 18, 2012

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket 96-128).


It has been more than two (2) years since being able to talk to my sister. Prior to coming to prison I had placed six (6) collect phone calls to her from the county jail (Lamar County, Texas). These six calls totaled more than one hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$185.00), averaging more than thirty dollars (\$30.00) per fifteen (15) minute phone call.

This outrageous telephone bill caused a financial crisis for my sister's low income. Subsequently, her telephone was disconnected, leaving her unable to contact her daughters, should an emergency arise (sis is disabled). I have since been able to get my veterans disability benefits and paid sis back for the telephone bill. But now she cannot get her home phone reconnected and uses a borrowed cell phone from a friend. The prison will not allow me to add the borrowed cell phone number to my calling list.

I do not know when, if ever, I will talk to my sister again? Her disability prohibits her from traveling from north west Arkansas to central Texas for a visit. If resonable limits had been set, prohibiting the kick-backs and inflated charges, my sister would still have a home telephone and I could purchase minutes from the comm-issary to call her. Now she is scared that if she reconnects a telephone for me to call that it will cost her more money as before and yet another financial crisis.

Please, impose limits on jail & prison telephone rates. Ban kick-backs as jails and prisons always require the provider to include maintenance in their contracts, thus costing nothing. They should not be allowed to inflate the telephone charges simply to rob the inmates and families of this incarcerated. This monopoly and price gouging must be stopped!

Sincerely,

  
Jerald Hall  
TDCJ# 01699310  
Powledge Unit  
1400 FM 3452  
Palestine, TX 75803

DONALD B. MARKS  
A0199365  
SAGUARO CORRECTIONAL CENTER  
1252 E. ARICA ROAD  
ELOY, AZ 85131

December 3, 2012

Received & Inspected  
DEC 27 2012  
FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communication Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **CCA & GTL, Inc. MONOPOLY CREATES EXORBITANT  
TELEPHONE RATES FOR TELEPHONE CALLS MADE BY  
HAWAI'I PRISONERS VIOLATING ANTI-TRUST LAWS.**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Greetings, I am writing this letter to you as a public comment regarding my personal experiences regarding the exorbitant telephone rates I am currently being charged by Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), and their telephone service provider, Global-Tel-Link, Inc. (GTL).

Currently, I am forced to pay \$5.00 per 20 minute pre-paid telephone call, or \$7.00 per 20 minute collect telephone call. This is a billion-dollar-a-year industry that is based on CCA's and GTL's greed and exploitation of U.S. citizens, which I believe is in direct violation of Federal Anti-trust laws.

Previously, we Hawai'i inmates housed here in Arizona at CCA's Saguaro Correctional Center were allowed (by CCA) to access the competition's cheaper call rates in the telephone market. We could access companies such as Cons-Call-Home, Freedom Line.net, and several other Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VOIP) companies which offer substantially cheaper telephone rates than we are currently being charged. Not any more!

Now, CCA in conjunction with their new telephone service provider, GTL, Inc., who's parent company is American Securities-A venture capital firm, have blocked any-and-all of our access to GTL, Inc.'s competition which provides these lower telephone rates. This illegal tactic of blocking our access to the competitions lower rates has forced us to purchase our telephone service from GTL, Inc., who now has created a monopoly for themselves in the telephone service market here at Saguaro Correctional; Center.

I spend approximately \$25.00 per week for five five minute telephone calls to my family and friends. This amounts to \$1,300.00 per year. In 2002, when I was not incarcerated, I would spend \$60.00 per month for unlimited minutes from my telephone service provider Sprint. That's \$720.00 per year for unlimited calls. And that was ten years ago! I am sure the telephone rates have gone way down since then.

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Black's Law Dictionary defines "**Monopoly**" as follows:

**Monopoly (noun)** 1. Control or advantage obtained by one supplier or producer over the commercial market within a given region 2. The market condition existing when only one economic entity (GTL, Inc.) produces a particular product or provides a particular service.

Chairman Genachowski, it seems to me that according to the definition in Black's Law Dictionary that GTL, Inc. in conjunction with CCA has created a monopoly here at Saguaro Correctional Center. I believe this practice which has created a monopoly in the telephone service market clearly violates the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1 et seq.

I believe CCA's contract with GTL, Inc. should be investigated as to their clear violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

I would also like to say that I support the Wright Petition which is before the FCC at this time. You as Chairman have the power to stop this greed and exploitation being perpetrated by CCA and GTL, Inc. on U.S. citizens, and I am asking you to do so.

In closing, the per-minute-rate should not be more than 0.10¢ per-minute, at the most. Any well run company can still make a reasonable profit at that rate. I am asking you to please help those of us who do not have a voice. Let your conscience, and the law of the land, and not money, be your guide in deciding this serious matter. Thank you for your time and support in this crisis.

Sincerely Yours,



DONALD B. MARKS

xc: Senators Inouye, & Hirano

Received & Inspected

DEC 27 2012

FCC Mail Room 12.19.12

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

This is a public comment for the Wright petition (cc Docket #96-128).

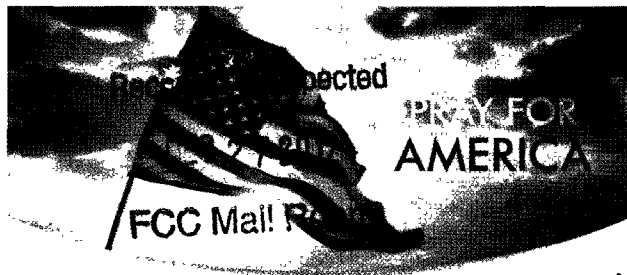
Sir when I make phone calls home, to Columbia, In the phone calls are a little bit old. so it's hard on my family either when I call or when I don't. Mr. Genachowski all I'm asking is there's a way for these phone calls to be cheaper in the near future.

In best regards

Michael Shipp #489179

W.T.S.P P.O. Box 1150

Henning, TN 38041



12-26-12

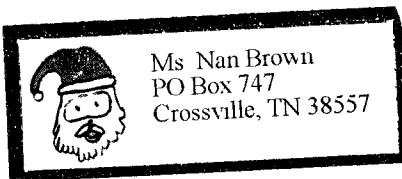
Chairman Julius  
Ginackowski

Please help all Mothers  
& Fathers by getting these  
sons back home. In  
71 & 72 we help each other. It  
is such a hardship.

cc Doerflinger  
#96-128

-Hawley

Y/a:—



NASHVILLE TN 372

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Federal Communications  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
20554



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FCC Mail Room

DEC 27 2012

12/20/12

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

FCC Mail Room

This is a public Comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket # 96-128). I am Russell Schooley #HY6184, an inmate at SCI Greene in Pennsylvania. I write you now to explain the detrimental effects the phone rates are ~~and~~ causing based on personal experience.

I moved to Pennsylvania to take care of my grandfather. I came to prison after his death, and my family lives in Cincinnati ~~Ohio~~ Ohio. I have a little sister I haven't seen since she was 5 and she's now 11 years old. Due to the extreme distances involved, ~~and~~ the unhelpful visiting hours, and my mom's job demanding at least 12 hour workdays, the only way I have of communicating with my loved ones is by telephone.

My mom recently got a divorce and moved out with my sister. She doesn't get alimony or child support, so adding the costs of moving out along with raising my sister, money is very tight at the moment.

I don't have a job in the prison and am unable to get one. So I only get a few cents over \$14 a month "idle pay". That's barely enough to supplement the meager diet served here with expensive commissary items.

It costs me about \$10 to make one phone call home. That's 15 minutes before the phone system automatically disconnects a call. On the outside, I can pay my entire local/long distance phone service bill for unlimited local/long distance phone calls per month for the same amount of money it costs me to make 4 phone calls home totaling 1 hour of talk time. This is an absurd exploitation and brings to mind the question of who's the criminal here. That a company would charge so much money unnecessarily to those without any other options, it is dispicable and in my mind criminal.

So as you probably guessed, I don't call home much, and it takes 4 days to send/receive mail. I've received 3 visits from my mom in over 4 years. There are many others in my situation or worse off. I am not serving life, and I don't even have any felonies on my record. And it's a proven fact that more family interaction while in prison reduces rates of recidivism. So with all this in mind, please push for change in this situation, as it is drastically needed. Thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely, 

Russell Schooley #HY6184  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370